

# GAME FACE

INDIANS SCOREBOOK MAGAZINE

So Good — So Young  
**C.C. SABATHIA**



Spring Training 2002  
Program 2- Sabathia \$5.00



Photo: Gregory Drezdson





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Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

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We had a successful season in 2001. We won our division for the sixth time in seven years, but we failed in our ultimate goal in winning the World Series. It has become clear to myself and Mark Shapiro and his staff that while beating the opposition into submission may win you a division, it is not going to carry you to a World Championship.

What the Arizona Diamondbacks and New York Yankees have displayed over the last four years is that you win with pitching and defense while stocking your roster with “winning” players that have both talent and character and play with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm.

I also want our players to want to come to the Ballpark everyday. I want our players to want their teammates to be successful, and I want our players to come to the Ballpark both ready to play and ready to win. I want them to play every game like it's the first game of the season – with energy and enthusiasm – a team that is going to make the fans of Cleveland and myself proud of their players.

Another thing that has become apparent over the last several years is that our lack of depth among upper-level, position-player prospects was eventually going to catch up to us at the Major League level. While it was difficult to trade a potential Hall-of-Famer in

Roberto Alomar, I feel that we added some quality players to our Major League roster in RF Matt Lawton and RHP Jerrod Riggan and helped build the depth of our organization with the addition of OF Alex Escobar, LHP Billy Traber, and 1B Earl Snyder.

I feel with our core group of players of Jim Thome, Ellis Burks, Omar Vizquel, Einar Diaz, and Travis Fryman still intact along with the new additions of Lawton, Ricky Gutierrez, and Brady Anderson – coupled with our matured and improved pitching staff – will provide our club with the leadership and talent needed to win the American League Central Division in 2002.

# Winning In Different Ways

**A Prospectus for the 2002 Season from Tribe Manager Charlie Manuel**

*Manuel will look for players like Omar Vizquel, below left, and newcomer Matt Lawton, below right, to reach base often – and score via singles and doubles – not three-run homers.*



Photo: Gregory Drezdon



Courtesy of the Minnesota Twins





Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

*Danys Baez will move to the Tribe's starting rotation.*

We have also added three new coaches to the staff for the upcoming campaign. With the addition of Eddie Murray, Robby Thompson, and Mike Brown to the staff, I feel that we have one of the most respected, talented, and hard-working staffs in the game today. Hitting Coach Eddie Murray's credentials in this game are unmatched – he will receive instant respect from our hitters. Eddie and I had lockers next to each other during his tenure here as a player as he was our key veteran leader during our 1995 American League title. Robby Thompson was one of the most fearless players I ever saw – I look for him to instill that attitude and energy into our players as he coaches our infielders and first base. Mike Brown has done more to develop our young pitching staff than anyone, spending the last seven seasons as our Minor League pitching coordinator. Grady Little (Bench Coach), Joel Skinner (Third Base), and Luis Isaac (Bullpen Coach) have been with me during my entire tenure as manager and are irreplaceable to me.

The question most often asked of me as we head into the 2002 season is "how are we going to score runs" with the departures of Alomar, Kenny Lofton, Juan Gonzalez, and Marty Cordova. My answer is that we need to score in different ways this year. Lawton will either slide into Lofton's leadoff spot or Alomar's number three spot in the order while newcomer Ricky Gutierrez, who hit .290 with a career-high 66 RBI, will either bat second or seventh. We need Jim Thome and a healthy

Ellis Burks to produce in the middle of the order – with guys like Lawton, Gutierrez, Omar Vizquel, and Einar Diaz setting the table for them by having a high on-base percentage, moving runners, and stealing bases. Also, Travis Fryman, who is coming into Spring Training healthy, and the combination of Russell Branyan and Brady Anderson in left field should produce some runs for us. Milton Bradley will bat toward the bottom of the lineup as he enters his first full season in the big leagues.

While looking for other ways to score in 2002, I believe our pitching will be improved from last year as our young core pitchers continue to mature and develop into quality Major League pitchers.

Bartolo Colon has worked hard in the off-season and promises to come into camp in the best shape of his career. Bartolo won 14 games last year, and I look for him to improve on that.

Second-year lefthander C.C. Sabathia, who exceeded all expectations in 2001 by winning 17 games for us, will be counted upon to carry a bigger innings load in 2002.

We need to keep Chuck Finley healthy enough to make at least 30 starts this year after he spent two different stints on the disabled list last year.

Danys Baez was arguably our most valuable pitcher in the second half of last season (5-3, 2.91 ERA, league-high 38 games) after being converted to relief in Spring Training. I have decided to move Danys into the rotation in 2002. In addition to his competitive makeup, I think he has one of the most explosive fastballs in the league, and his split has developed into a quality pitch. Danys can be a successful pitcher for us this year if he can keep hitters off balance and we can monitor his workload.

Charles Nagy and Jaret Wright, who are attempting to overcome two straight years of arm problems, will compete with the encouraging Ryan Drese, Jake Westbrook, and Tim Drew for the fifth spot in our rotation. All of them potentially can fill our long relief role in the bullpen. Look for Billy Traber, acquired from the Mets and a former first-round

pick, to start the year in AA Akron or AAA Buffalo. I am also going to get a look at Jason Stanford and Jason Phillips, pitchers developed in our system by our new Pitching Coach, Mike Brown.

Bringing back Bob Wickman was our most vital move of the off-season. There is nothing more deflating to a club than playing your heart out for 8.0 innings only to have it blown in the ninth with an unreliable closer. Bob Wickman was outstanding for us last year, saving 91% of his save chances. Bob loves the pressure that comes with the territory of being a closer, and he is a tremendous influence on our young pitchers.

Paul Shuey will be our prime set-up man along with free agent acquisition Mark Wohlers. Both guys have the stuff to be closers and both relish having the ball with the game on the line. Ricardo Rincon had an outstanding year for us last year as he made a career-high 67 appearances. Those three guys along with Wickman give us as reliable of a

*Ellis Burks' leadership and bat skills will be in great demand.*

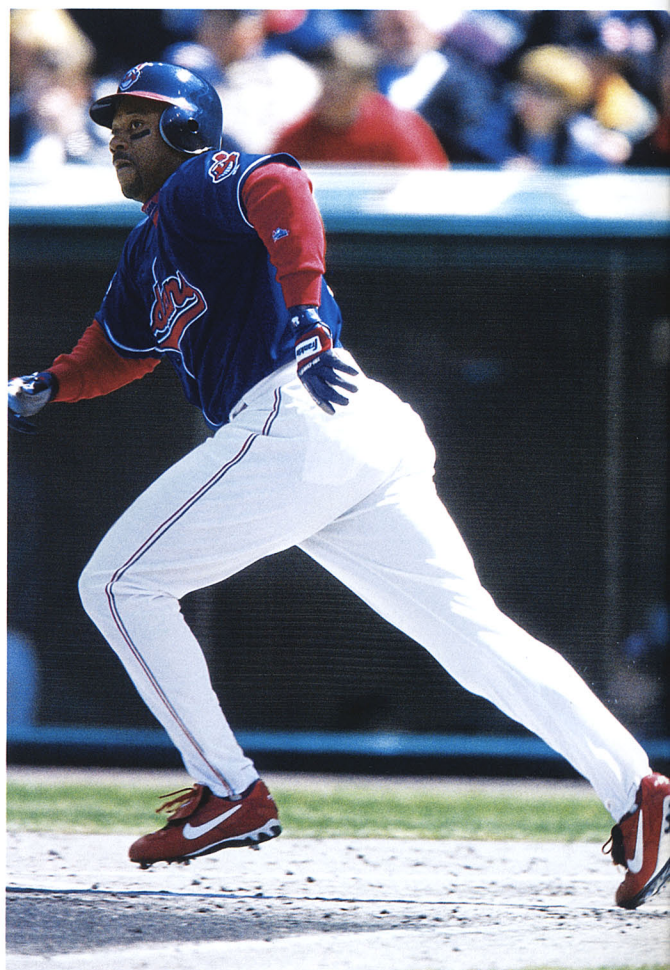


Photo: Gregory Drezdzon



back-end bullpen as there is in baseball. It will be the strength of our team.

David Riske and Jerrod Riggan will further deepen our 'pen.' Riske really stepped up for us toward the end of the season and in the playoffs against Seattle. Riggan, who has an above average fastball and power slider, was a key acquisition in the Mets deal, and he will go straight into a middle-relief role. Scott Radinsky, a healthy Sean DePaula, Roy Smith,

*Charlie Manuel, below with Einar Diaz, will depend on timely hitting and improved pitching. Jim Thome, right, will be looked to for RBI.*



Photo: Gregory Drezdron



Photo: Gregory Drezdron

and Chad Paronto will all be closely looked at in Spring Training and are capable of making the team.

Infield defense will continue to be a strength of the club. Omar Vizquel has won nine straight Rawlings Gold Glove Awards and is as good as anyone I have ever seen with the glove. We are going to need Omar to get on base and steal more bases this year.

Newly acquired Ricky Gutierrez has twice led National League shortstops in fielding percentage and is more familiar with second base than people realize. His offensive numbers have increased in each of the last three seasons after a career-high 66 RBI last year for the Cubs. Having those two guys up the middle will be a huge benefit for our young pitchers.

Travis Fryman, another former Gold Glover, is healthy heading into Spring Training and is as good as anyone in our league at that position. If he can approach his team MVP numbers from 2000, that would be tremendous for us.

Jim Thome, who had a career-high 124 RBI last year, is underrated and steady at first base



and can potentially be our clean-up hitter along with DH Ellis Burks. Ellis would have approached 30 HR and 100 RBI last year if he did not break his thumb – I look for him to put up those kinds of numbers for us in 2002.

Jolbert Cabrera can play six different positions well and is among the most underrated players in the American League while the sure-handed John McDonald is out of options and will be given every chance to make the club.

Matt Lawton, one of the key players in the Robbie Alomar deal, will play right field for us. I see Matt batting third or perhaps leading

*continued, see **Winning Ways**, page 16*



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Manuel says "Jolbert Cabrera [above] can play six different positions well and is among the most underrated players in the American League." Cabrera, who produced the winning hit in the Indians historic come-from-behind victory over the Mariners last July, will be counted upon for his bat as well as his glove in 2002.



# Winning Ways

*continued from page 10*

off. He stole 29 bases last year and drove in 88 runs in 2000, so I look for him to be a weapon in our offense. Russell Branyan and Brady Anderson will patrol left field for us while Ellis Burks, Wil Cordero, and Karim Garcia may also see time in left field. Russ will also spell Travis Fryman at third and Brady will be our back-up centerfielder. Russ can be a run producer for us if he can cut down on his strikeouts and put the ball in play more while we look for Brady to rebound from a sub-par 2001 with Baltimore.

*While new faces will dot the Tribe lineup, well-known talents (clockwise from top, Fryman, Branyan, and Diaz) will be relied upon as well.*



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



Photo: Gregory Drezdson





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

Milton Bradley will play nearly every day in center field. He is an exceptional outfielder who also needs to put the ball in play more to utilize his speed. Eddie Murray is going to be a tremendous tool for Milton and Russell to use this year.

For the first time in several years, Spring Training is going to be pretty interesting for us. The fifth spot in the rotation and long man in the bullpen are up for grabs as are the at-bats in left field. Also, seeing the conversion of Dany's Baez back from relief and the five new players from the New York Mets is exciting to me and should be to our fans as well. I am really looking forward to working with this team. We are going to play with a renewed energy and look to score in ways other than the three-run homer – while building around our young pitching.

I look forward to seeing you at the Ballpark this year!

*Bob Wickman **loves** to get the ball in pressure situations – undoubtedly a necessary trait for a reliable closer.*



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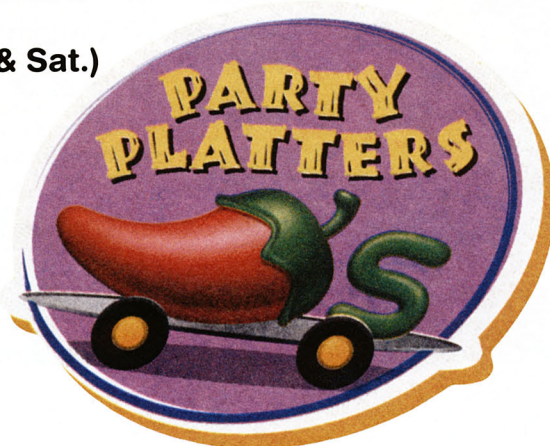
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# So Young, But Already So Good!

By Jim Ingraham

Where do you start when trying to best appreciate what C.C. Sabathia accomplished in 2001?

That his record was 17-5?

That he was 13-2 on the road?

That he allowed fewer hits per nine innings (7.44) than any starting pitcher in the American League?

That from August 7 through the end of the season – in the heat of the pennant race, when his team needed him the most – Sabathia was 7-1, with a 3.99 ERA?

Go ahead, pick your favorite Sabathia statistic, and then season it with this: He did all of it at age 21. And he didn't turn 21 until after the All-Star break. He was only 20 years old when the season started, but there he was, in the Indians Opening Day rotation, despite never having previously pitched higher than Class AA.

Go figure.

This wasn't just a great season by a rookie pitcher. This was a historic season.

You have to go all the way back to Herb Score in 1955 to find an Indians rookie pitcher who arrived with such an impact. And maybe you even need to go back farther than that.

As a 22-year-old rookie in 1955, Score had a record of 16-10. As a 21-year-old rookie in 2001, Sabathia had one more win and five fewer losses than did Score, who was voted the American League's Rookie of the Year, one of just four Indians to win that award.

Sabathia would have become the fifth Indians player to be voted AL Rookie of the Year, but his timing was off. He arrived the same year as Seattle's sensational Ichiro Suzuki, who won both the Rookie of the Year and the Most Valuable Player awards.

Of course, at the beginning of last season nobody projected Sabathia to even be a candidate for Rookie of the Year, because nobody projected Sabathia to be in the big leagues. He had not yet thrown even one pitch at the Triple-A level when he reported to Spring Training a year ago. The conventional wisdom

was that the then 20-year-old lefthander would need at least a half season at Buffalo before he'd be ready to face big league hitters.

Wrong!

During training camp last year, only two people felt Sabathia might be able to make the jump from Double-A to the big leagues. One was Sabathia himself. The other was Indians manager Charlie Manuel, who admits he fell in love with Sabathia's arm and makeup the first time he saw him pitch.

"The thing that amazes me," says Manuel, "is that he never lets anything bother him. Every time we needed a big win, it seemed like

C.C. was standing on the mound, and he gave it to us."

Indians assistant general manager Neal Huntington, who as the club's farm director oversaw Sabathia's meteoric rise through the Tribe's Minor League system, still has a hard time believing how fast it happened.

"We thought C.C. had the potential to be a terrific No. 1 or 2 starter in time, but not in two and a half years," said Huntington. "He missed half a year with a minor injury, so he really made it to the big leagues with a year and a half of experience in professional baseball. That's pretty amazing."



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



So is the fact that Sabathia is still only 21. The day teammate Chuck Finley threw his first big league pitch, Sabathia was six years old.

"I don't really think much about being 21," says Sabathia. "Not when I'm on the field. Sometimes I'll be at home watching *Baseball Tonight* on ESPN and they will mention my name, and I'll think about it then, but I try not to get too caught up in all that."

He is a rookie who refuses to act his age. All season long Sabathia pitched like he was 21, going on 31.

Indeed, the age issue was put to rest very early last season. Age was a key issue last spring as Indians officials began to consider whether Sabathia might be ready for the big leagues faster than they thought.

Sabathia came to training camp as a long shot to win a spot on the Opening Day roster. But as training camp unfolded, Sabathia refused to pitch himself out of the competition. In fact, the opposite was true. He seemed to pitch better and better as camp progressed.

By the end of March, it was clear that Sabathia would have to be considered for a spot on the club's Opening Day rotation. The biggest worry, of course, was the risk involved. That by bringing Sabathia to the big leagues before he was ready, his development might be derailed, should he have several bad outings, which would necessitate a return to the Minor Leagues.

It was an age thing. He was, afterall, only 20 years old.

"In Spring Training we had a lot of discussions about C.C.'s age," said former Tribe pitching coach Dick Pole. "But finally, we realized it wasn't much of an issue, because he's so mature. He's aware of things that go on around him. When he's on the mound, he knows who the hitter is, what the count is, what the score is, who is on deck. He is aware of all of that."

Having the stuff to pitch in the big leagues is one thing, but having the mental makeup to handle the pressure that comes with pitching in the big leagues at so young an age is equally, if not more, important.

"The toughest part about being a rookie pitcher is getting the feeling that you belong up here," said Pole. "That if you make good pitches, you'll get the hitters out, but if you don't make good pitches you'll get whacked."

It didn't take very long last season for Sabathia to prove he belonged. He had the stuff, the confidence, and the mound presence. This was not a rookie who was in awe of



*continued, please see Sabathia, page 34*

Photo: Gregory Drezdson



were some players from our area who got drafted in other years, and I started to think that maybe I could get drafted, too."

So did the scouts from the Major League teams, who soon began to migrate to Sabathia's games, particularly in his senior year, when he had a record of 6-0, with a 0.77 earned run average, 82 strikeouts, and only 14 hits allowed in 46 innings.

On the day of the draft, Sabathia knew he was a likely first rounder, but didn't think it would be the Indians who would be calling his name.

"I thought the Giants were going to take me," he said. "They had three first-round picks that year, and I thought they were going to use one of them on me."

The first of the Giants three first-round picks was the 19th pick overall. The Indians had the 20th pick. However, with that 19th pick, San Francisco took a high school third baseman named Tony Torcato.

The Indians said "thank you very much" and quickly selected Sabathia.

"Some guys sit at home waiting for the phone to ring on the day of the draft, but I didn't want to do that," said Sabathia. "It's funny, the way I found out . . . I was in gym class at school and the principal told the whole school [over the public address system] that I had been drafted by the Indians."

Huntington still remembers the first time he saw Sabathia throw after the draft.

"My first impression was that this was an amazing player to get with the 20th pick in the draft," Huntington said. "To get a guy like this with a good arm, who is a good athlete and a good person - it's incredible to get someone with all those qualities with the 20th pick."

Sabathia made that pick look like one of the best picks in Indians draft history last season, as he made an amazingly smooth transition to the big leagues.

He won his first Major League game in his second Major League start: a 9-8 win over Detroit on April 13. He really didn't have a slump all season.

At the All-Star break he was 7-3, and in the month of July he was 3-0 with a 2.83 ERA. The Indians were 6-0 in his six starts that month, and he was named the American League's Rookie of the Month for July.

Then he got hot.

His record after the All-Star break was 10-2. If you count his 17-2 win over Seattle in Game 3 of the Division Series, Sabathia was 11-2 after the All-Star break.

"It just seemed like every time we had a big game, C.C. ended up winning it," said Manuel.

Sabathia's season was downright historic. His 17 wins are the third most in Indians history by a rookie lefthander, behind only Vean Gregg, who won 23 games in 1911 and Gene Bearden, who won 20 in 1948.

Opposing batters hit just .228 against Sabathia last season, the second lowest mark

against all American League starting pitchers. His 181 strikeouts were seventh in the league, and first in the Majors among rookies.

Three different times he struck out 11 batters in a game. He never missed a start. He won three more games than any other Indians pitcher. He was, in short, everything the Indians had hoped he'd be, and more.

Much more.

And he's still only 21.



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



# Sabathia

*continued from page 15*

being in the big leagues. He respected the hitters he faced, but he didn't fear them.

It was that kind of approach, plus Sabathia's 95 mph fastball and rapidly developing breaking ball, that helped trigger the sequence of events that led to a pitcher who had a modest record of 3-7 in just 90 innings in Double-A the previous season becoming a candidate to be in the Indians Opening Day rotation.

The process really began in July of 2000, when Sabathia was called up from Akron to pitch for the Indians against the Arizona Diamondbacks in the Hall of Fame exhibition game in Cooperstown, NY.

Sabathia's numbers weren't that great in the game, but after watching him throw and observing his maturity on the mound, Manuel saw that Sabathia's future was closer than anyone realized.

"That's when I first started to think he might be able to help us (in 2001)," said Manuel. "I liked his arm, his confidence on the mound, the way nothing seemed to bother him."

Manuel was so impressed that he briefly lobbied the Tribe's front office to promote Sabathia to the big leagues immediately. That was not done, but Sabathia did join the Indians for a week in September of 2000. He was never officially added to the roster, but there was some thought given to doing so.

Club officials eventually decided against throwing a rookie into the heat of a wild card race, so Sabathia was sent home for the winter.

During the winter Manuel spoke with Sabathia and told him that he was going to be given a chance to win a spot on the Indians Major League roster during Spring Training.

"When Charlie told me that, it was the first time I started thinking that I might be able to make it to the big leagues in 2001. It was very exciting," said Sabathia.

The rest is history.

Sabathia came to training camp in 2001 and pitched with a maturity far beyond his years. At no point did he appear in awe of what he was trying to accomplish, nor was he intimidated by the prospect of pitching to hitters he had seen on TV just a few years earlier when he was still a California schoolboy.

Sabathia's journey to the big leagues began in Vallejo, CA, where he was born and raised.

He was always a pitcher. Played a little first base, too, but mainly a pitcher.

"I just liked the position of pitcher, because you were in control of the whole game," Sabathia says.

At Vallejo High School Sabathia was a towering presence – literally and figuratively – on the school's football, basketball, and baseball teams.

"Baseball wasn't my best sport, but it was the one I liked the most," he said. "I was always better at football."

So good, in fact, that he was heavily recruited by colleges as a football tight end. UCLA and the University of Hawaii were the two front runners for his football services, with Hawaii probably having the inside track, because that was the only school willing to let him play football and baseball.

But then came Major League Baseball's 1998 June Amateur Draft.

"It was in my freshman year that I first started thinking that I might be able to play professional baseball," said Sabathia. "There



Photo: Gregory Drezdson



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Slippin' n Slidin' Around Town Year-Round

Photo: Gregory Drezdson



# Focus On The **Next** Generation

## 2001 Minor League Highlights

The Cleveland Indians Minor League Organization finished 2001 with a regular season overall record of 382-321 (.543) and ranked 4th in the organizational standings.

The Buffalo Bisons and Kinston Indians were the only two teams in the organizational system who qualified for post-season play. The Buffalo Bisons captured their fourth Division Title in the last five years as they topped the North Division of the International League. The Bisons, however, were eliminated by Scranton Wilkes-Barre three games to two in the first round of the International League playoffs. It was the second year in a row that the Bisons were eliminated by Scranton in the first round.

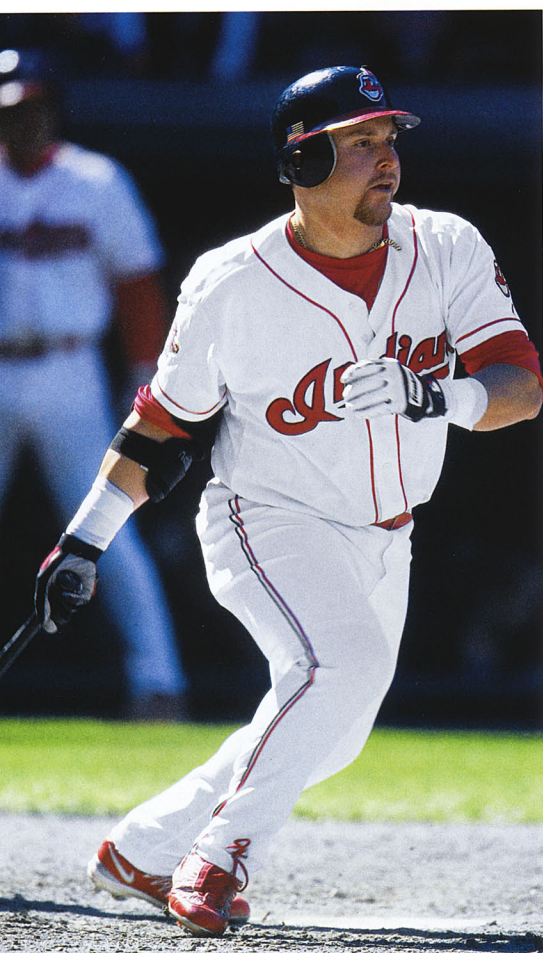


Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

The Kinston Indians qualified for the Carolina League playoffs as they captured both the first- and second-half Southern Division titles. The Indians were eliminated in the Carolina League playoffs by Salem two games to one.

The Buffalo Bisons were represented at the AAA All-Star Game by right-hand pitcher Roy Smith. Lefthander Matt White was the Aeros lone representative at the AA All-Star Game. Kinston was represented by catcher Victor Martinez, infielder Nate Grindell, outfielder Eric Johnson, and left-hand pitcher Alex Herrera in the Carolina League/California League All-Star Game. Infielder Henry Pichard, outfielder Ryan Church, righthander Ryan Larson, and southpaw Dan Neil represented the RedStixx in the South Atlantic League All-Star Game.



### "AAA" BUFFALO BISONS (91-51)

The Buffalo Bisons kick-started their 2001 season by winning their first six games and nine of their first 11. The Herd finished the month of April with a 15-8 record. Buffalo streaked into the All-Star break 20 games over .500 and with the best record in all of AAA baseball at 55-33.

Even with constant shuffling of their roster between Cleveland, the Bisons still managed to finish the regular season with a 91-51 record, while capturing their fourth division title in the last five years. The Bisons 91 victories set a modern-era club record, and their .641 winning percentage was the fourth best winning percentage in club history.

Buffalo finished tied for eighth in the International League in batting with a .259 average. The Bisons pitching staff had a team ERA of 3.59, which was third best in the league.

Buffalo Manager Eric Wedge was named the International League Manager of the Year. Wedge guided the Bisons to a 91-51 record in his first season with the Herd and the fourth as a manager in the Cleveland farm system. In addition, Wedge was named the Best Managerial Prospect in the International League by *Baseball America*.

Infielder Greg LaRocca had a solid season with the Bisons after spending the first 31 games of the season at Akron. LaRocca com-

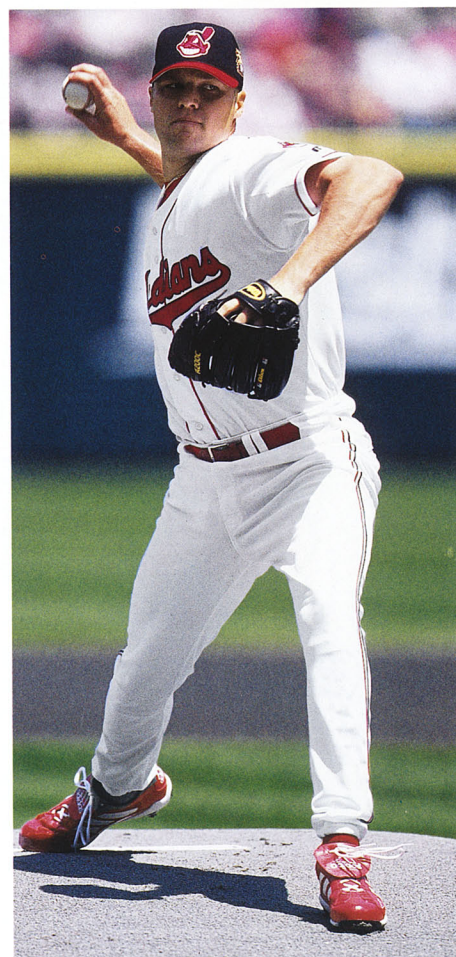


Photo: Gregory Drezdzon

Up-and-comers who tasted the big leagues in 2001 include (left to right) Karim Garcia, Jake Westbrook, (facing page) Roy Smith, and David Riske.





Photo: Gregory Drezdson

bined to hit .320 with 15 HR and 56 RBI. The .320 average was second best in the organization. As a Bison, LaRocca took a liking to Dunn Tire Park, as he hit .347 at home. He drove in four runs three times last season.

Catcher Tim Laker batted .247 with 20 HR and 57 RBI in 86 games with the Bisons. His 20 HR were second most on the team and his 57 RBI were third most. From June 8 to August 9, Laker belted 10 HR in 15 games.

Outfielder Karim Garcia hit just .216 during the first three months of the season, then was red hot for the remainder of the season. Garcia batted .330 in July and August, while blasting 20 HR and 46 RBI during those two months. For the season, Garcia hit .264 with 31 HR and 85 RBI. He led the Bisons in games played (125), runs (73), home runs (31) and RBI (85). From July 15 through the remainder of the season, Garcia collected at least one hit in 36 of 44 games. He finished second in the International League in homers and third in the league in RBI.

Infielder Tony Medrano was consistent for the Bisons, as he batted .290 with seven HR and 52 RBI in 121 games. Medrano pounded out 135 hits, second most in the Indians organization. Medrano had hitting streaks of ten,

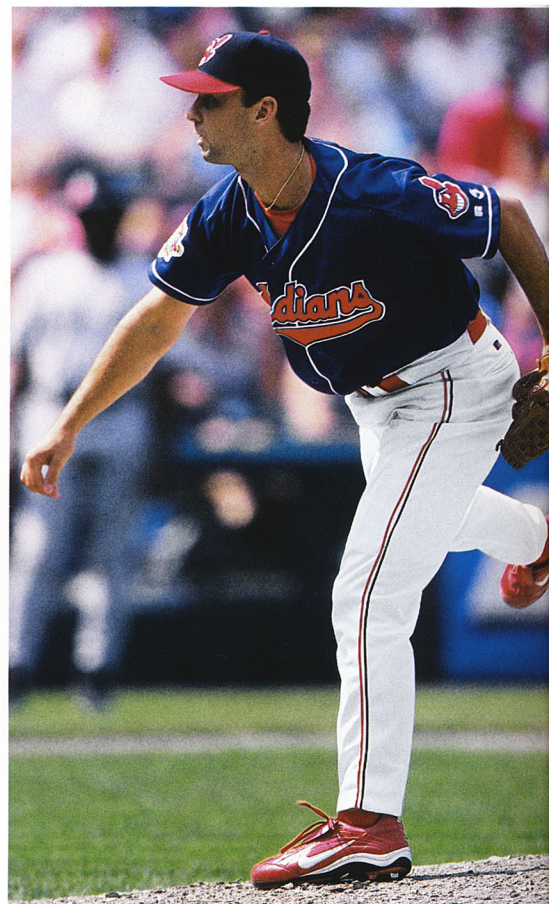


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## **ONLINE AUCTIONS**

*Memorabilia collectors have a new online destination — [www.indians.com](http://www.indians.com)*

*Cleveland Indians Charities  
will make four autographed items  
available per week for online auction via  
the Tribe's website, [www.indians.com](http://www.indians.com)*

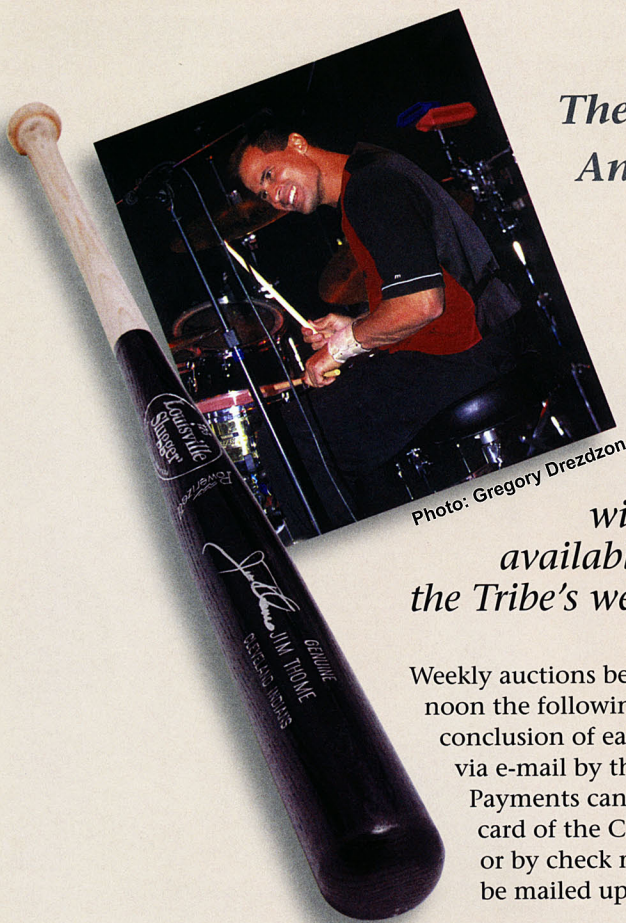
Weekly auctions begin each Monday at 3PM and run until noon the following Monday. The highest bidders at the conclusion of each weekly auction will be contacted via e-mail by the Indians for payment arrangements.

Payments can be made by MasterCard, the preferred credit card of the Cleveland Indians, or by VISA, Discover, American Express or by check made payable to Cleveland Indians Charities. The items will be mailed upon receipt of payment.

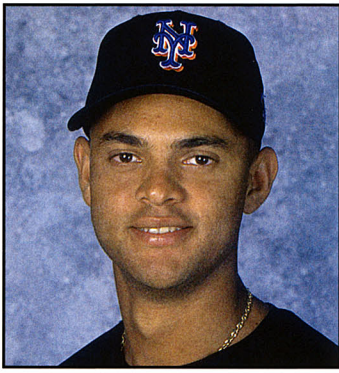
The highest bidders will have 48 hours to respond to the e-mail notification of their bid selection before the next highest bidder will be awarded the item. Minimum bids for each item will range from \$20 - \$100. All items will include a letter of authenticity.

All proceeds benefit Cleveland Indians Charities which supports youth education and recreation programs in the Greater Cleveland area.

Auction items will vary each week, but may include banners, autographed jerseys, bats, helmets, and photographs.







**ALEX ESCOBAR** 46

Age: 23, born September 6, 1978  
in Valencia, Venezuela  
Position: Outfielder  
B-T: R-R Ht: 6'1" Wt: 180



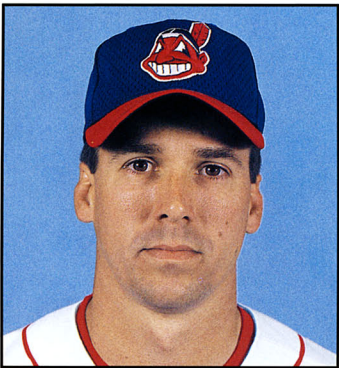
**CHUCK FINLEY** 31

Age: 39, born November 26, 1962  
in Monroe, LA  
Position: Pitcher  
B-T: L-L Ht: 6'6" Wt: 226



Photo: Gregory Drezzon

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**TRAVIS FRYMAN** 17

Age: 32, born March 25, 1969  
in Lexington, KY  
Position: Third Base  
B-T: R-R Ht: 6'1" Wt: 195



**KARIM GARCIA** 24

Age: 25, born October 29, 1975  
in Ciudad Obregon, Mexico  
Position: Outfielder  
B-T: L-L Ht: 6'0" Wt: 195



**RICKY GUTIERREZ** 12

Age: 31, born May 23, 1970  
in Miami, FL  
Position: Infielder  
B-T: R-R Ht: 6'1" Wt: 195



**ALEX HERRERA** 59

Age: 22, born November 5, 1979  
in Maracaibo, Venezuela  
Position: Pitcher  
B-T: L-L Ht: 5'11" Wt: 175



# When You're Ready For The Majors Step Up To The Plate With.....



Photo: Gregory Drezdson

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